

I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this Internal Revenue Code amendment. It would insure that all Americans with medical conditions that require special dietary approaches and individuals who are maintaining better health through the use of dietary supplements will not carry the burden of this additional expense alone.

TRIBUTE TO RACHELLE F. JAMERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Rachelle F. Jamerson, this year's National Minority Female Entrepreneur as chosen by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency. Ms. Jamerson is most deserving of this award and I am pleased to count her among the constituents of South Carolina's Sixth Congressional District.

Before finishing high school, this ambitious entrepreneur put her talent for sewing and fashion design to work. Because no bank would take a gamble on a 16-year-old seeking to start a business, she raised her own capital by designing clothes, producing fashion shows, and creating a line of Greek paraphernalia.

She attended Winthrop College in Rock Hill, SC, and graduated with a bachelor of science in Fashion Merchandising. In further developing her entrepreneurial interests, Ms. Jamerson also attended a summer design session at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York in 1988.

By the age of 33, Ms. Jamerson had parlayed her early success in designing and selling women's wear into a diverse business that includes a nail salon, travel agency, financial counseling service and a deli. This "one-stop shopping" vision grew out of a need Ms. Jamerson perceived in her hometown of Orangeburg, SC.

The name of her business "Rachelle's Island" is a reflection of her vision. Her concept is that every visit to her store will seem like a mini-vacation. The idea has caught on and the number of "vacationers" visiting Rachelle's Island continues to increase. Ms. Jamerson's reported sales exceeded \$500,000 in 1998.

I applaud her ingenuity for turning a sewing skill into a diverse business. Such talent and vision are the hallmarks of a successful entrepreneur. Ms. Jamerson has demonstrated that she has an abundance of both.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Rachelle Jamerson for her outstanding achievements as an entrepreneur. Her hard work and dedication should be commended by this House.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MURIEL OLBERT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a woman who was dedicated to the community, the church and her family, Muriel Olbert. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty. Sadly, Muriel recently passed away.

Muriel's many achievements and interests speak well of the hard working woman that she was. She was born in Mancos, Colorado, on January 2, 1908. Muriel graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in education after which she dedicated much of her time and energy to students and education, including Mrs. Trundell's Private School in Huning Castle. In addition to being a devoted member of the Saint Paul Lutheran Church for over 50 years, Muriel was a former member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a member of the Lew Wallace Chapter of the D.A.R.

As is evident from her devotion to her faith and her family, Muriel will be greatly missed by all. She is survived by her daughter, her brother, her two grandchildren, and her three great-grandchildren.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to a fine and cherished woman. Her memory of love and dedication will live on forever.

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to take this moment to salute each and every distinguished individual who has served our country in the United States Armed Forces. Our veterans should be commended for their outstanding contributions and dedication; they have made America great.

Every November 11, Americans take the time to say thank you for the freedom we so often take for granted. This country should not forget that freedom has a price. The sacrifices of those men and women who serve in uniform, as well as their families, have secured our liberty. We also need to recognize those that have paid the ultimate price of giving their lives for something greater than themselves. However, we cannot wait any longer to tell the veterans of today that they are important. It is time to say thank you.

I am a strong supporter of the National World War II Memorial which is to be built in Washington, DC. The site, located between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, was dedicated by President Clinton in 1995. The American Battle Monument Commission has been working hard to raise the money to build the monument, for which they expect to break ground on Veteran's Day 2000. This is supported by all veteran's associations, with the American Legion being one

of the strongest supporters. Those interested in learning more about the efforts of the American Battle Monument Commission should contact their local veterans' organization.

I am proud of the thousands of veterans who reside in the First Congressional District of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that, on this Veterans Day, the residents of Valparaiso, Portage, Chesterton, Beverly Shores, Kouts, Burns Harbor, The Pines, Porter, Ogden Dunes, Dune Acres, Whiting, East Chicago, Gary, Lake Station, Hammond, New Chicago, Munster, Highland, Griffith, Hobart, Merrillville, Dyer, Schererville, St. John, and Crown Point join us in recognizing these noble individuals.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM ANDREW WHISENHUNT

HON. JAY DICKEY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. DICKEY. Mr. Speaker, one of the highest compliments a person can receive is to be called a "servant," someone who gives of himself for others. A man that I have known for many years, a man of outstanding reputation, a man who has given a large part of his life in service to his neighbors, a man respected by his peers, is about to make a major change in his life. The people of the fair state of Arkansas would be remiss if they did not acknowledge that change.

Andrew Whisenhunt of Bradley, in Lafayette County in Southwest Arkansas, was born in the town of Hallsville, Texas. His family, however, moved to the Natural State while Andrew was still a baby. Though technically this means that he is not a native, Andrew is Arkansas through and through.

He has long been in the public eye, and soon Andrew will step down from the presidency of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation after thirteen years. A modern-day tiller of the soil, he has been a farmer for as long as he can remember, as was his father before him. With loving support from his wife Polly, and with help from his five children—Warren, Terri, Tim, Julie, and Bryan—Andrew has built the farm where he has lived almost all his life into what has been called a model of modern agriculture. It is a testimony to his abilities that his family was selected Farm Family of the Year and that he personally was chosen as the "Progressive Farmer Magazine's Man of the Year in Arkansas Agriculture."

His love for his chosen profession has carried him far beyond the fencerows of this 2,000-acre cotton, rice, soybean, and wheat-and-grain operation. The journey began when he joined the Lafayette County Farm Bureau in 1955. By the time Andrew was elected to the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Farm Bureau in 1968, he had served in almost every office in his county organization, including president. In his early years on the Farm Bureau state board, he worked on several key board panels, including the Executive and Building committees. The latter panel's work resulted in the construction of Farm Bureau Center in Little Rock in 1978.

His fellow board members thought enough of his personal industry and leadership abilities that they elected him their secretary-treasurer in 1976, an office he held for ten years. During that time, Andrew was also active outside of the Farm Bureau arena as, among other things, a charter member of the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board, and as former president of both the American Soybean Development Foundation and the Arkansas Association of Soil Conservation Districts. In 1986, he was elected as president of the Arkansas Farm Bureau.

During his tenure, the organization has enjoyed unprecedented growth in membership, influence, and prestige. When Andrew accepted the mantle of top leadership, the Farm Bureau represented some 121 farm and rural families in the state. Today, that figure stands at almost 215,000, the eighth largest Farm Bureau of the fifty states and Puerto Rico.

As the Arkansas Farm Bureau has grown, Andrew's leadership has done likewise. As an influential member of the American Farm Bureau Executive Committee, he has traveled far and wide as an advocate, not just for Arkansas farmers, but for American farm interests in international trade and foreign relations. He was a member of the Farm Bureau delegation that visited Russia after the fall of the Iron Curtain to offer assistance to farmers and to experience that nation's agriculture. Andrew was also a key player in delegations to China, Japan, and South America. He led a group of Arkansas farm leaders on a visit to pre-NAFTA Mexico, and to deliver rice the Farm Bureau had donated to a Central American village devastated by Hurricane Mitch. Most recently, he was among U.S. farm leaders who traveled to Cuba to see how trade with that nation might be re-established.

But Andrew's influence and tireless work ethic embrace the non-farm sector as well. His service to his local community includes county and city school boards, the local hospital board, the Board of Florida College in Tampa, Florida, the Bradley County Chamber of Commerce, and his church.

When Andrew steps down as the president of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation in December, the members of that great organization will miss him greatly. He has never been one to sit still, however, and chances are that will never change. Unlike the 'Old Soldier' General Douglas MacArthur spoke of so many decades ago, Andrew Whisenhunt will certainly not "fade away." As the new century unfolds, the Farm Bureau's loss will undoubtedly be a gain somewhere else for all Arkansans.

TRIBUTE TO HARLEY EXTINE

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, on the eve of Veterans Day, I rise to bring to the attention of the House the extraordinary accomplishments of Harley Extine. Mr. Extine, a recipient of the Silver Star, deserves recognition for his valiant bravery on behalf of the American people

while a member of our Armed Forces. I am proud to represent Mr. Extine in Congress.

Harley Extine, now 55, was a soldier defending freedom in the Vietnam conflict. On January 30, 1966, Mr. Extine's 101st Airborne Division came under sniper fire on a rice paddy in South Vietnam. Two soldiers went down with serious wounds. Mr. Extine dashed through the field to reach the wounded friends, disregarding his own safety. In fact, though the bullets continued flying through the air, Mr. Extine would not seek shelter until the wounded had been evacuated. His bravery and valor took him into other battles, at one point seriously wounding Mr. Extine. Undeterred by the wounds, he returned to serve a second tour in Vietnam.

Mr. Harley Extine is an outstanding and inspirational individual. His bravery and courage during this operation and throughout his service to our country is admirable and should be commended.

HONORING MARGARET "PADDY" WARD

HON. HELEN CHENOWETH-HAGE

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mrs. CHENOWETH-HAGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor American veterans of all wars for the sacrifices they've made to preserve our freedom, our heritage, and our American way of life. On Thursday, November 11, 1999, we will celebrate Veterans Day across America, and we have much to be proud of in this great Nation of ours. I want to personally offer my deepest thanks to the brave soldiers who have either served or are currently serving in the Armed Services.

In addition, I would like to pay a special tribute to U.S. Airman Margaret "Paddy" Ward. As a 19-year-old Air Force enlistee, she accomplished what no woman had before. She became the first female member of the U.S. armed services to travel at twice the speed of sound and only the second woman in the world to do so. Her historic flight took place in an F-106 Delta Dart, which traveled along the Atlantic coast in March 1963. Newspaper accounts describe how calm she was, despite the still experimental nature of her flight. Truly, Airman Ward's flight is an inspiring story of personal bravery.

Mr. Speaker, I find it extremely heartening that our country can produce someone so young with such courage and enthusiasm. It is no wonder that with such people we have become the successful nation that we are.

Sadly, Airman Ward was taken away from us a mere 10 years later at the age of 29. Yet we should remember her for the example that she set. And if God has chosen that she die in youth, then we should console ourselves in remembering her as the youthful girl who climbed the heavens that historic day.

Thinking upon her unique accomplishment, I am reminded of a poem by Leonard Heath:

Yet spirit immortal, the tomb cannot bind thee,
But like thine own eagle that soars to the sun
Thou springest from bondage and leavest behind thee

A name which before thee no mortal hath won.

Mr. Speaker, U.S. Airman Margaret "Paddy" Ward was truly an American hero.

SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS ARE RAISED BY THE MERGER OF ARCO WITH BP AMOCO

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, a number of questions have been raised by the proposed acquisition of ARCO by BP Amoco. Megamergers are always matters of considerable concern because of their potential economic and business impacts. In this case, however, there are serious environmental questions that need to be considered seriously. ARCO is a major participant in Alaskan oil exploration and recovery, and the merged company will have enormous influence in that region. For this reason, it is important that we consider the environmental impacts of this merger.

Mr. Speaker, the record of BP Amoco in Bolivia, for example, causes me to have very grave reservations about this merger and its impact in Alaska. Pan-American Energy, a South American subsidiary of BP Amoco, is allegedly responsible for contaminating the drinking water supply of a rural Bolivian town. The consistent failure of BP Amoco to deal with this relatively small issue in Bolivia raises serious questions in my mind about the firm's environmental sensitivity.

Mr. Speaker, these environmental concerns are serious and deserve our careful consideration. I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to an excellent op-ed by Mr. Adam Kolton, the Arctic Campaign Director of the Alaska Wilderness League, which focuses on the negative environmental implications of BP Amoco-ARCO merger. I insert the text of Mr. Kolton's article in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give it careful attention.

AS BP AMOCO AND ARCO MERGER NEARS, FUTURE OF THE ARCTIC WILDLIFE REFUGE IS ENDANGERED

(By Adam Kolton)

BP Amoco's pending acquisition of ARCO will give the newly-merged company an enormous presence in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and an opportunity to preserve that ecologically fragile coastal plain for future generations.

As the merger negotiations proceed, so should worldwide public scrutiny of BP Amoco's plans for oil exploration in the refuge. The Arctic Refuge is the only conservation area in the United States that safeguards a complete range of Arctic and sub-Arctic ecosystems. It is home to more than 200 species of wildlife, including the largest international migratory caribou herd in the world, denning polar bears, rare musk oxen, and hundreds of thousands of migratory birds. The refuge is an international treasure.

It is no secret that BP Amoco is lobbying hard to drill in the coastal plain, and it's certain